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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Roland NOLL, et al.

Examiner: C. Thai

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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Technology Center 2100

RESPONSE AND ELECTION TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This *Response and Election* is filed, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.143, in reply to the Restriction Requirement mailed by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office on November 3, 2003.

Claims 1-72 are pending. The claims were restricted into group I (claims 1-18 and 63-66), group II (claims 37-52), and group III (claims 19-36, 53-61, 62, and 67-72).

Applicants elect group III without traverse.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desired in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean S. Wooden, Reg. No. 43,997  
Andrews Kurth LLP  
1701 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.  
Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20006  
Tel. (202) 662-2736  
Fax (202) 662-2739

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